

Late Backup

Item #45

Purchasing

11/18/15

11/19 Council Q&A

Council Member Houston

Item #45 – Republic Services Inc. (Mgmt. & disposal of class 2 non-hazardous waste)

Question: If Republic Services no longer owns/operates a landfill, why is our contract with them? What is the relationship between Republic Services and Waste Management?

Answer: The Austin landfill owned and operated by Republic Services (Republic) closed on November 1, 2015. Prior to its closing, Republic offered to transport the City's waste to their other landfill located in San Antonio. In an effort to maintain the carbon footprint of this activity, Austin Energy staff authorized Republic to begin using another Austin landfill. This new landfill is owned and operated by Waste Management and is provided to the City by Republic at no additional cost.

The current contract requires the Contractor to own and operate a landfill that can receive the City's waste. Republic continues to meet this requirement by making their San Antonio landfill available to the City. And while the City could insist that Republic transport the City's waste to the San Antonio landfill, Austin Energy staff determined that it would be more environmentally sound for Republic to use a nearby landfill instead.